

Docket Number: 009270-0308308

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: 50G35744-USA-AT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

SHINICHI ITOH, et al.

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Application No.: UNKNOWN

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: February 18, 2004

Confirmation No.: UNKNOWN

For: PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL CONVEYING APPARATUS, PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL CONVEYING DIRECTION SWITCHING APPARATUS AND PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL STAMPING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CITING APPLICATION INCLUDING PTO-1449

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop Patent Application  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

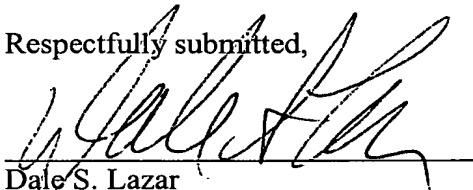
The application (copy attached) identified in the attached Appendix is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of that U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

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In addition, relevance of the non-English language references are discussed in the present specification, e.g., see pages 2 and 3 for comments concerning the Japanese publications and/or in the English-language Abstracts also attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Dale S. Lazar  
Registration Number 28872

Date: February 18, 2004

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP  
Telephone: (703) 905-2000  
Facsimile: (703) 905-2500  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102

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APPENDIX

Examiner's Initials	First Inventor	Application No.	Filing Date	Enclosed
	Shinichi ITOH	10/437,241	05/14/2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Filing Receipt

The Examiner's initials indicates he/she has considered the cited application relative to the subject application.

**DO NOT PRINT** the above information on the patent which results from the subject application.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	02/18/2004
		First Named Inventor	SHINICHI ITOH
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	UNKNOWN
<i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Attorney Docket Number	
Sheet	1	of	009270-0308308

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	1	JP 8-99734	04/16/1996	TAKAHASHI et al.	Abstract	
	2	JP 2003-109061	04/11/2003	OTSUKA	Abstract	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).<sup>2</sup> See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).<sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.<sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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